

CITY OF REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION

MINUTES

October 8, 2009

City Hall Council Conference Room

"Voice the views of the community to Mayor and City Council in reference to all cultural endeavors"

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair John Stilin, Vice Chair Latha Sambamurti, Commissioners Bridgett Ezzard, Tom Flynn, Clint McCune, and Eva Moon

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Goi Holliday, Seema Chaudhary, Jill Krusinski

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Larsen, Director Parks & Recreation, Mary Yelanjian, Arts Administrator

YOUTH ADVOCATES PRESENT: Thomas Moore, Christine Ito

GUESTS PRESENT: Jeremy Richards

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AGENDA

Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stilin called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) at 7:02 p.m. at the Redmond City Council Conference Room.

II. MEETING ORGANIZATION

A. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

No changes or additions.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Sambamurti added, "She (Sambamurti) said that "safe" should be replaced by a more positive word like stimulating or rewarding." Minutes approved without objection.

C. CHAIR/VICE CHAIR REPORTS

Chair Stilin welcomed Library Board member Lorin Catudio to the meeting and discussed how he liked the joint meeting with the Parks & Trails Commission and hoped that the Arts Commission partnered with other commissions in the future. He wants to leverage the Arts Commission's efforts to make a whole that is bigger than the sum of the parts. He also said that he had been worried about not having a quorum at the meeting and encouraged Commissioners to take their roles on the Commission seriously.

III. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Lorin Catudio, from the Redmond Library Board, spoke about the Library's One Book, One Redmond program and this year's selection of ***The Worst Hard Time*** by Timothy Egan. He spoke about the films that the Library would be presenting on conjunction with the book including *The Grapes of Wrath* and *the Plow that Broke the Plains*. He hoped that there were ways that the arts commission could collaborate with them. He also spoke about the efforts that he would undertake to support King County's Proposition 1.

IV. COMMENTS ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN - Larsen

Larsen commented that the draft strategic plan was a good step in the transition the Commission is making to a broader vision. He said that the Commission's vision provides leadership on the arts and other quality of life issues to the Mayor and Council. He said that the Commission is very effective when it speaks to the Council and that the Commission's thinking about arts in the larger perspective of City life is important.

Larsen identified the Christopher Janney project as transformative to the street life in downtown and although it is in a very sketchy stage, it has the potential to transform the downtown.

He outlined a different way to do park design that includes a landscape architect and artist team, using the NE Neighborhood Park as an example, he talked about the elements that make up the plan. The goals are:

- Create/be an intellectual challenge
- Include mystery and suspense
- Have aesthetic interest and comfort
- Encourage creativity in visitors

Stilin said that the NE Neighborhood Park design was very well received and that it reminded him of the parks he grew up in. He suggested that commissioners listen to the Council meeting where the plan was presented. Larsen said that he would provide access to the book made by the artist to go along with the presentation.

V. ARTS COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN

Yelanjian introduced Jeremy Richards to the Commission. He was invited to the meeting to help the Arts Commission select their vision and mission. Youth Advocate Moore and Commissioners Moon, Stilin, and McCune each introduced themselves to Richards and started a conversation about the Arts Commission's vision and discussed that vision with Richards. After that process, the Commission discussed and selected the vision statement: A Community Inspired and Connected by Arts and Culture.

The Commission then discussed the mission statement including what it means to be a catalyst in the community. The Commission selected: Be a catalyst for Redmond's diverse and inventive community.

The Commission then discussed the statement "Make it Safe to Be An Artist in Redmond," under Nurture the Arts in our Community. McCune talked about how important it is for Redmond to be thought of as a place where artists are welcome and where it could be a regular occurrence for a guitarist to play on the street corner. He talked about how the City has no arts venues and that this is connected to not attracting artists to the City. Stilin talked about how difficult it can be to express yourself publicly without fear of reprisal and how important it is to support that expression.

Commissioners discussed how to incorporate those ideas in a new statement and adopted Welcome and embrace artists in Redmond as a substitute for Make it Safe to Be An Artist in Redmond.

Chair Stilin read the new section in the plan about culture and the commission had no objections.

Motion to approve the 2009 Arts Commission Strategic Plan with the edits outlined tonight: Commissioner Flynn
Second by: Commissioner McCune
Motion carried: 6-0

VI. SENIOR CENTER ART REVIEW - McCune

Commissioner McCune presented a selection of visual art recommended for the Redmond Senior Center. The Commission reviewed three of the pieces on the 4th floor of City Hall and made the following recommendation:

Purchase Silver Forest by Andie deRoux and explore the purchase of Dawn by Andie deRoux if a favorable price can be negotiated for both. Install Silver Forest where the Chihuly is on the 4th Floor of City Hall and move the Chihuly to the Senior Center.

Purchase Zen Rock by Dan Colvin, Photograph of truck by Edwards, Flowers by Dan Kencke, Digital Art by Brad Sutton, and Modern Convenience by Chris McMullen. Yelanjian will negotiate fees and prepare the presentation for purchase to the City Council. The artwork is being purchased with percent for arts dollars allocated from the ORSCC renovation

VII. STAFF REPORT - Yelanjian

There was no discussion. The following was distributed.

RAC Meetings and Activities

October 27, Joint Meeting with the Redmond City Council, 7:30 pm
November 9, Tony Angell Book Signing, Redmond High School, 7:00 pm (tentative)
December 5-12, Christopher Janney Sonic Forest Exhibition
January 15-16, Daylight Digital Arts Festival, Redmond City Hall

Art Installation

November 3-4, Tony Angell's Sculptures (Redmond City Hall)
December 2-3, Christopher Janney's Sonic Forest (Redmond Town Center)

Digital Arts Festival – Commitments from Ben Cammarano (Microsoft), Ed Fries (Figure Prints), Dan Colvin (Artist – Installation), David Thiel (Audio Production), Kamal Siegel (Installation), DigiPen (Workshops). All presentations, workshops, and installations in development phase.

EAFA Art Exhibitions at ORSCC – Contract is up for renewal. Suggest discussion at next RAC meeting.

Firestation 17 Public Review Committee Formation & Direction – There is \$40,000 for art at the new Fire Station. Suggest discussion at next RAC meeting.

Poet Laureate – Panel has recommended three finalists for interviews to be held October 19 and October 21. Recommendation to RAC expected for November.

VIII. YOUTH REPORT

There was no youth report.

IX. PREPARATION FOR THE OCTOBER 27 MEETING WITH COUNCIL

Chair Stilin said that he would meet with Commissioner Flynn to prepare for this meeting because it was so late.

X. GENERAL NEW BUSINESS

Chair Stilin asked the Commission to think about the transition of the Commission in the new year. He will be leaving in January and it will be the end of Sambamurti's term as well.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Moon announced her upcoming concerts.

XII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Flynn

Second by: Commissioner Moon

Motion carried: 6-0 unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Arts Administrator, Mary Yelanjian.

NEXT REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING:

November 12, 2009

City Council Conference Room

7:00 p.m.

Redmond Arts Commission

Meeting: October 8, 2009

Audience Present

Please note: Information provided at this public meeting becomes part of the City's permanent record.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Lorin Catudio	15814 NE 47 th Ct	425-885-5914